

# WILLIAM EPHRAIM NUTTALL AND ROSAMOND WATSON AND MARTHA FENN



William Ephraim was born at Carlisle, Cumberland, England. His father, William, came from Bury, Lancashire, England, and his mother's people were from Northern Lancashire, Westmoreland and Northwestern Yorkshire, and trace into the Taylor, Whittington, Middleton and Hebbelthwaite families and through them to the Royal families of England. William was born October 29, 1825, and died May 5, 1899, in Wallsborg, Utah.

He married Rosamond Watson on August 4, 1851, in the Church of St. John the Baptist in Liverpool. She was born June 23, 1829, in Lime Street, Liverpool, Lancashire,

England. She died May 5, 1916, in Ogden. When he became bishop of the Third Ward in Provo he was asked by the Church authorities to accept and live the law of plural marriage, so on the 16th of March, 1861, he married Martha Fenn. She and Rosamond got along perfectly. Martha never had children of her own, but helped care for and was dearly loved by Rosamond's children. She was a guiding influence among the children in Wallsborg, where she taught Sunday School and Primary many years. William was bishop in 1866, when they decided to move to Wallsborg to make their permanent home. On July 15, 1877, when Wasatch County was organized as a stake, William was made the first bishop of Wallsborg Ward.

In his youth, William moved with his family to Liverpool, England. Here he received what schooling his family could afford. He decided he wanted to follow his father's and grandfather's trade as shipwright. In his early teens he apprenticed out and went to sea for 10 years to learn his trade. He sailed all over the world and learned about much of its people and customs. He also acquired knowledge of how to tie knots, handle rope and cable, repair and make almost all kinds of tools, all kinds of first aid and emergency handling of the sick and injured, how to set bones, pull teeth, care for wounds and many other useful things which were valuable throughout his life.

During the early 1850s, John Taylor, Mary Nuttall's cousin, contacted the family. While he was in America he had heard the gospel and had joined the LDS Church, and was now on a mission for the Church. William was the first to join, being baptized October 8, 1850. Then his parents and two brothers on October 8, 1850. At this time he met Rosamond. She was baptized January 14, 1851. Her parents told her she would have to renounce her new religion or leave home. She left and lived with her married sister, Caroline, until she married.

Their families were very hostile toward the new religion, so William, Rosamond, his parents and two unmarried brothers left Liverpool on the ship "Rockaway," with the Elias Morris company of LDS converts to come to Utah. It took eight weeks to

come to New Orleans. Rosamond lost a tiny baby enroute. They were met at New Orleans by Elder John Taylor and proceeded to Council Bluffs by boat.

This group of converts were known as the Sugar company, because on the same ship came the sugar refining machinery for beets grown in the West that John Taylor had bought for the Church in Europe. The machinery was purchased in the fall of 1851 and left in charge of Elias Morris and the Nuttall brothers. On March 6, 1852, they sailed from Liverpool. A Captain Philip de la Mare and a Captain Russell had preceded them to the states to purchase special wagons and oxen to haul the heavy machinery, as some of the pieces weighed over 16 tons. They arrived about April 25 and the machinery was loaded on smaller boats to go to St. Louis and there reloaded on still smaller boats to go to Ft. Leavenworth. The first 50 wagons bought were made at St. Louis after the great fire. Green and unseasoned lumber was used, so the wagons hauling the machinery soon began breaking down, and were given to the saints for their lighter loads. They then purchased 42 great Santa Fe wagons from Charles H. Perry. About 30 Saints came from England on the "Rockaway" and at Ft. Leavenworth many more joined, so it became the longest wagon train to cross the plains up to that time.

Now the hardship began. To haul such loads over rough prairie trails, across rivers large and small, climb steep mountain canyons in all kinds of weather, tried men's souls. They encountered the first severe snowstorm at the Sweetwater. It was two feet deep and zero weather. Cattle got away and some were never found. Supplies ran low and cattle had to be killed for food. Further along, in Wyoming, they were met by Joseph Horne and later at Ft. Bridger by Abraham O. Smoot, with flour and supplies. At Bear River more storms forced them to leave heavy wagons, which were brought to Salt Lake the next spring. They crossed the Bear River and came down the Weber.

The women came right along with their men, going through all the arduous hardships they endured and doing everything possible to lighten their loads.

On the banks of the Timpanogos (crook-